

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 OIC-02 EB-07 NASA-01

OES-06 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /103 W

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P R 300444Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8683

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 14424

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: INTELSAT, ETEL, PORG, TW, CH, IN

SUBJ: INTELSAT: CHIREP ISSUE

REF: NEW DELHI 13936

1. GOI OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO COME TO FIRM
DECISION ON QUESTION OF ROC USE OF INTELSAT FACILITIES AFTER
PRC REPLACES ROC ON INTELSAT BOARD. MEA ACTING JOINT
SECRETARY (UN) VERMA FINALLY TOLD EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 29 THAT
INDIANS THOUGHT ISSUE MIGHT NOT COME TO A HEAD AT THIS
MEETING AND GOI DID NOT WISH TO MAKE A DECISION IF IT
DID NOT HAVE TO DO SO. IF PRC DID NOT INTERPOSE OBJECTION
TO TAIWAN'S USE OF FACILITIES, THIS WOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM
FOR INDIANS. IF PRC DID OBJECT, HOWEVER, GOI WOULD THEN
MAKE ITS DECISION IN THE LIGHT OF US VIEWS AND "OTHER
CONSIDERATIONS", INCLUDING LANGUAGE OF INTELSAT AGREEMENT
OPENING USE OF THE FACILITIES TO NON-MEMBER NATIONS
AND "COUNTRIES".

2. COMMENT: INDIANS ARE USUALLY VERY RESERVED ABOUT
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COMMITTING THEMSELVES ON CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES WHICH MAY

NOT ACTUALLY HAVE TO BE DECIDED. THEY HAVE TOLD US IN THE
LAST TEN DAYS THAT THEY WILL BE WATCHING CHINESE ACTIONS
ON UNGA ISSUES WHICH ARE OF NMIRECT INTEREST TO INDIA IN
ASSESSING HOW TO PROCEED WITH SINO-INDIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS;
THE COROLLARY OF THAT IS THAT THE INDIANS MAY ASSUME THE
CHINESE WILL BE WATCHING THE INDIANS IN THE SAME LIGHT.
AT THIS POINT OUR GUESS WOULD BE THAT IF IT CAME TO A
CRUNCH, THE INDIANS WILL NOT REPEAT NOT SUPPORT ROC USE
OF INTELSAT FACILITIES ONCE IT IS REPLACED BY THE PRC.
SAXBE

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